



A SPEACH DE- LIVERED, TO THE KINGES MOST EX-

CELLENT MAIESTIE IN

THE NAME OF THE SHE-

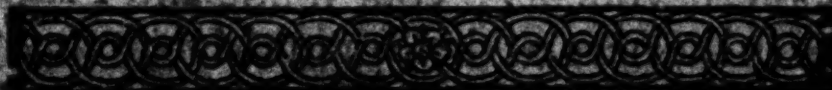
REIFFES OF LON-

DON AND MID-

DLESEX.

By Maister Richard Martine of the

Middle Temple.



AT EDINBURGH

Printed by Robert Walde-grane Printer to the

Kings most Excellent Maieftie

Anno. 1602.



A SPEACH DELIVERED
to the kings most excellent Maie-
stie at his neere approach to London, in
the name of the Sheriffs of Lon-
don and Middlesex.



THE common feares & difficulties which perplex most confident oraters, speaking before princes, would more confound my distrustfull spirit speaking to your high maiestie (most mighty King & our dreade soueraigne Lord) did I not know that the message which I bring is to a good King alwaies greatfull. Curiosity of wit and affected straines of Oratory I leaue to those, who more delight to tickle the Princes ear, then satisfie his deeper iudgement.

To me (most gracious Soueraigne) your Maiesties meaneft subiect, vouchsafe your milde and Princely attention, whiles in the nāes of these graue Maiestrates (your Maiesties faithfull Sheriffes of London and Middle Sex) I offer to your benigne grace that loyall & hartly welcome, which from that Honorable and ancient. Citie (the heart of this kingdome) is brought by them, whose deepe and inward greife, conceaued for the losse of our Peerlesse and renowned Queene Elizabeth is turned into excessiue ioy, for the approach of your excellent Maiesty, by whom the long and blessed peace of fīue and fo-

To the kings Maiestie.

ty yeeres is made perpetuall. Great is that knowledgement we owe to the memory of our late Princes gouernmēt, whose far spread fame, as it shall liue recommended to posterity for euer, so of her flourishing raigne no other testimony need be required, then that of your high Maiestie (since none cā be more honourable) that the like hath not beene read or heard of in our dayes, or since the raigne of great *Agustus*: So that, euen glorious and victorious Kings haue iust cause, to enuy the glory and vertue of a woman. But she is gathered in peace to her fathers, a memorable instance of our Maiesties diuine obseruation, that Princes differ not in stuffe, but in vse from common men. Out of the Ashes of this phenix wert thou King James borne for our good, that bright starre of the North, to which all true adamantine harts had long before turned themselues. Whose fame (like a new Sunne ryling) dispersed those cloudes of feare, which either our politicke friendes, or open enimeis, or the vnatural factors for the Monarchy, had giuen vs some cause to apprehēd: yea our nobility Coucellors & commons (whose wisdōe & fidelity is therefore renowned as far as this Island is spokē of) with a generall posted to your zeale Maiesties subiection: not more incited heere vnto by the right of your Maiesties discent and royall blood, drawn to this fair inheritance from the loynes of our ancient Kings, then enflamed with the fame of your Princely & eminent virtues, wherewith (as a rich Cabinet with precious iewels) your Kingly minde is furnished, if constant fame haue deliuered vs a true inuentory of your rare qualities. A King whose youth needes no excuse, and whose affections are subdued to his reason: A King which not onely does iustice, (which euen Tyrants doe some times) but loues iustice, which habit none but vertuous Princes can put on. Who (immitating the free bounty of the King of Kings) inuites all distressed people to cōe vnto him, not permitting Gehazie to take talēts of siluer, nor chāge of garmētts.

Maister Martins Speech

In some Princes (my Soueraigne Lord) it is inough that they be not euill, but from your Maiefty we looke for an admirable goodnesse, and particular redresse, so strange an expectation (fore-running your Maiesties comming) hath inuested the mindes, of good men with comfort, of bad with feare.

And see how boũteous haeuē hath affined fourekingdomes as proper subiects for your Maiesties fourekingly vertues scotland hath tried your prudence, in reducing those things to order in the Church and Common-wealth, which the tumultuous times of your Maiesties infancie had there put out of square. Ireland shall require your iustice which the miseries (I dare not say the pollicies) of ciuil wars haue there defaced. France shall proue your fortitude when necessary reason of state shall bend your Maiesties Countelles to that enterprize. But let Englad be the schoole, where in your Maiefty will practize your temperance and moderation, for here flattery will essay to vndermine, or force your Maiesties strongest constancie and integrity: base assentation the bane of virtuous Princes, which (like Lazarus dogs) licks euen the Princes soares, a vice made so familiar to this age by long vse, that euen Pulpits are not free from that kinde of treason: A treason I may iustly call it most capitall, to poyson the fountaine of wisdom and iustice, whereat so many kingdomes must be refreshed.

Nor can I be iustly blamed, to lay open to a most skilfull and faithfull Phisition our true greifes, nay it shall bee the comfort of mine age, to haue spokē the truth to my Lord the King, and with a hart as true to your Maiestie as your owne, to make knowne to an vncorrupted King, the hopes and desires of his best subiects.

Who (as if your Maiestie were sent downe from heauen to reduce the golden age) haue now assured themselues, that this Iland (by strange working and reuolution now vnited to your

Maie-

To the kings Maiestie.

Maisties obedience (shall neuer feare the mischieses and misgouernmets, which other countries and other times haue felt.

Oppression shall not be here the badge of authority, nor insolence the marke of greatnes. The people shall euery on sit vnder his owne oliue-tree, and anoynt himself with the fat thereof, his face not grinded with extorted sutes, nor his marrow suckt with most odious and vniust Monopolies. vnconcionable Lawiers, and greedie officers, shall no longer spinne out the poore mans cause in length to his vndoing, and the delay of iustice, No more shall bribes blinde the eys of the wise, nor gold be reputed the common measure of mens worthinesse. A dulterate gold, which can guild a rotten post, make Balam a Byshopp, and Isachar as worthy of a iudiciall chaire as Salomō, where he may wickedly sel that iustice, which he corruptly bought. The money changers & sellers of Doves, (I meane those, which trafique the liuings of simple and religious Pastours) shall your Maiestie whip out of the Temple and common wealth: For no more shal Church liuings be pared to the quicke, forcing ambitious Church-men) pertakers of this Sacriledge (to enter in at the window by limonie and corruption which they must afterwards repaire with vsurie, and make ypp with pluralities. The ports & Hauens of these Kingdomes which haue long beene barrd, shall now open the mouthes of there riuers, the armes of there seas, to the gentle amity & iust trafficke of all nations, washing away our reproach of vniuersall pirats and sea-wolues, and deryuing) by the exchange of home-bred comodities with forraigne) into the vaines of this land, that wholesome blood and well gote treasure, which shal strengthen the sinnews of your Maiest. Kingdomes. The neglected (and almost worne out) nobility shal now (as bright Dyamonds and burning Carbuncles) adorne your Kingly diadem. The too much contemned Clergy, shall hang as a pre-

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precious caring at your Princely care, your Maiestie still list-
ing to there holy Councils. The wearied Commons shall be-
worne as a rich ring on your royall finger which your Maiestie
with a watchful eye will still graciously looke vpon for we haue
now a King that will heare with his owne cares, see with his
owne eyes, and bee euer icalous of any great trust, which (be-
ing afterwarde become necessary) may be abused to an vn-
lymmitted power.

O my gracious Leige, let neuer a-
ny wrye Councils dyuert or puddle the fayre streame of your
naturall goodnes. Let wicked vsurpers seek lewd arts, to mayn-
taine their lewd purchases. To your Maiesty (called to this
Empyre by the consent of God and man, and now King of so
many faithfull harts) plaine and dyrect-vertue is the safest pol-
licy, and loue to them, who haue shewne such loyalty to you
is a wall of brasse.

They meane to sell the King to his subiects at their owne price
and abuse the authority of his Maiesty to their priuate gayne,
and greatnes, who perswade him, that to shut himselfe vp
fro the accesse of his people, is the meanes to augmet his state.

Let me not seeme tedious to your maiesty (my gracious So-
ueraigne) nor yet presumptuous, for I counsell not. But whiles
your Maiesty hath bin (perchance) wearied with the com-
plaints & insinuations of perticulars, for pryuate respōtes, let
it be lawfull (my leige) for a hart free from faere or hope, to
shew your Maiestie the agues which keepe lowe this great bo-
dy, whereof your Maiesty is the sound-head.

Nor are we fed with hopes of redresse by immagination
(as hungry men with a painted banquet) but by assurance of
certaine knowledge, drawne out of the obseruation of your
Maiesties forepast actions, and some books now fresh in euery
mans hands beeing (to vse your Maiesties owne wordes) the
Viue ideas or representations of the minde: whose excellent
whole-

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wholesome rules your Maiesty will neuer transgresse, hauing, bound your princely sonne by such heauy penalties, to obserue them after you, nor dooth any wiseman wish, or good man desire, that your Maiesty should follow other counsellors or examples the your owne, by which your Maiesty is so neere-lye bound.

To conclude therefore, what great cause haue we to welcome to the territories of our Cittie your most excellent Maiestie, who (to make vs the glorious & happie head of this Ilād) haue by your first entrance brought vs the addition of another kingdome, which warre could neuer subdue. So your maiesties vpright gouernment, shal make vs partakers of that felicitie, which diuine *Plato* did onely apprehend but neuer see, whose king is a Philosopher a Philosopher beeing our King) Receiue then (most gracious Soueraigne) that loyall welcōe, which our Cittie sendeth out to meete your Maiestie, our Cittie which for the long tryall of her loyaltie, obediēce, & faithfull readinesse in all occasions, your maiesties royall progenitors haue honoured with the title of their Chamber: whose faythfull Citizens, with true and well approued hearts, humbly lay at your royall feete their goods and liues, which they will sacrifice for your maiesties seruice and defence, with longeyes, desiring to receiue you your maiestie within their walles, whom they haue long since lodged in their harts: praying to heauen that your Maiesties person may be free from practize, your soule safe from flaterie, your life extended to the possibilitie of nature: and that if not your naturall life, yet your royall line may haue one period with the world, your princely offspring sitting vpon the throne of their fathers for euermore, & we your Maiesties faithfull seruants humbly surrendring into your Maiesties hands that authority, which we holde from you, wishing from our harts that all plagues may pursue his posteritie, that but conspires your Maiesties danger. Finis.

Martin. R.

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